

Volume 28, No. 8, August 1996

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CAROLINA COUNTRY

Official publication of Carolina Electric Cooperatives



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Work in Their
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at Spencer Shops**

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CAROLINA COUNTRY

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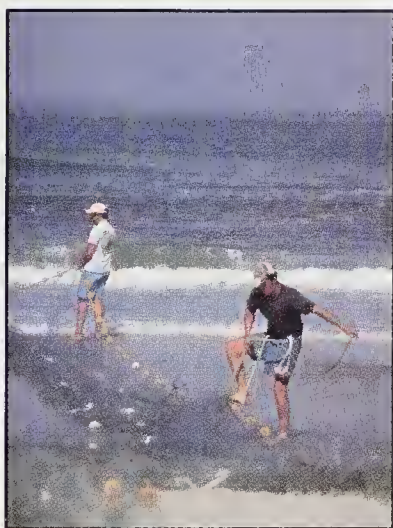
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The Historic Spencer Shops and the North Carolina Transportation Museum are ready to dedicate the newly restored Roundhouse, marking 100 years since the Southern Railway set up shop here.

Cooperatives and Their Communities 12

Bobbie and Linwood Meadows aren't the only North Carolinians who consider their electric cooperatives to be a blessing in their community.



On the Cover

Haulnetters on the Atlantic Ocean beach of Dare County's Outer Banks. Russell Firth (left) and Richard Baum work with commercial fisherman Lonnie Miller of Wanchese. Photograph by Michael E.C. Gery.

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Mark A. Suggs of Pitt & Greene EMC says, "Our community commitments grow as naturally as leaves grow on trees." Also, "Uncle B" goes to the mountains, and we try to separate the curds from the whey.

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Letters and Comments



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Commitment to communities

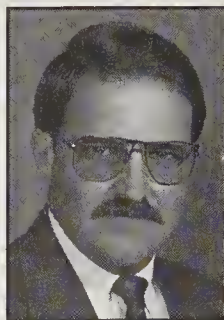
Electric cooperatives never have strayed from involvement with the communities we serve. Commitment to communities is a natural part of our business. It is not a public relations project that arises from time to time and from place to place.

After all, when citizens organized cooperatives for the purpose of supplying themselves with electrical service, they did so for the good of their communities. And they always have seen their cooperative grow in tandem with their communities' businesses, farms, housing, utility services, governments, schools and cultural institutions.

As solid citizens of the communities we serve, electric cooperatives are reliable partners in community development. When it comes to supporting education, jobs, senior and social services, health care, or anything else that benefits the community, you can count on a partnership with the electric cooperative of your area.

There are many examples of community projects that were initiated by an electric cooperative. We at Pitt & Greene Electric Membership Corporation recently began our Fleet Watch program so that our staff who work each day in the neighborhoods of our service area are trained to notice and report any suspicious activity out of the ordinary. We care about the safety of our members.

This summer we are looking for new proposals from local schools that may earn a Bright Ideas grant. These are cash grants we and other North Carolina electric cooperatives award to public school teachers for inno-



vative programs they might not otherwise be able to fund. Last year we awarded \$1,250 to a Farmville school for an interesting "touch and read" program, and another \$1,250 to a Greenville school whose students designed and built an energy-efficient dollhouse complete with lights and ceiling fans.

And we care about the economic welfare of our area, too. Like many other areas served by cooperatives, ours is going through a transition from an agriculture-based economy to a diverse mix of agriculture and related services, manufacturing, education, communications, tourism and other commerce. Pitt & Greene EMC is at the center of this development. Among other projects, we are developing an industrial park in Farmville that will allow new and expanding businesses to flourish and contribute to further development of our communities.

As a statewide enterprise, our electric cooperative recently began a \$5 million revolving loan fund that will finance local building and infrastructure projects that promote economic development.

Across North Carolina, electric cooperatives are just as involved as we are at Pitt & Greene EMC. Our community commitments grow as naturally as leaves grow on trees. They demonstrate that cooperatives do more than provide a utility service to their members. Cooperatives are an inseparable part of their communities.

Mark A. Suggs is manager of Pitt & Greene EMC, serving more than 7,500 consumer-members in Pitt, Greene, Lenoir, Wayne, Wilson and Edgecombe counties. He also serves on the cooperatives' statewide Executive Committee.

More North Carolina guide books

Frederick K. Lobdell of Elizabeth City sent us a list of North Carolina guide books to add to those we mentioned in the May issue.

- North Carolina Hiking Trails, by Allen de Hart. Descriptions of more than 750 trails. Published by the Appalachian Mountain Club, available from the Appalachian Trail Conference, P.O. Box 807, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425.
- 100 Favorite Trails of the Great Smokies and Carolina Blue Ridge. \$2 plus 60¢ postage and handling from Carolina Mountain Club, P.O. Box 68, Asheville, N.C. 28802.
- Birds of the Carolinas, by Eloise Potter, James Parnell, and Robert Teulings. Published by the University of North Carolina Press.
- A Geologic Guide to North Carolina's State Parks. Written for those without a background in geology, but who want to know more about the parks. Published by and available from the North Carolina Geological Survey. Inquire about Bulletin 91.



Mourning dove has no fear

During the "Ice Storm" of '96," I was home from work wondering what to fix for supper with no power. I looked out my den door, and pine cones and limbs were scattered everywhere on the patio steps. I was thinking, "Oh well, more to clean!" Late I looked out and a dove was just setting there. My husband had given me a

new camera for Christmas, so I lay on the floor in my den and took this picture through the glass door. The dove stayed there for several hours.

Alice R. Robertson Warrento

P.S. I took frozen leftovers, put them in my cast iron pan, put it in the fireplace, and we had supper with a smoked taste.

Uncle B'd been there, done that

Editor Cathy Johnson placed this story in the April 1996 issue of the "Watts News" newsletter published for employees of Four County Electric Membership Corporation in Burgaw.

When serviceman Billy Wilson (alias "Uncle B") went to help restore power at Surry-Yadkin EMC [during a storm-related power outage], family members told his nephew Austin he had gone to the mountains to turn on the lights. Later, when Austin heard the preacher talk about Peter being on the mountain, he raised his hand in church to let everyone know his Uncle B had already been there to turn on the lights.

Anything for a song

Do any of your readers remember the Hamm and Ramsey Tent Revival meeting held in New Bern in the early 1920s? They were selling a small song book there that contained a song I'd truly like. It was on page 128 and started: "I was once a sinner, but I've been made whole, blessed by the name of Jesus."

I would very much like a copy of this. I will gladly buy, borrow or rent the book and will return it.

Mrs. C. F. Hall, 6876 Neuse Rd.
Grantsboro, NC 28529



Budding photographer

My son is learning disabled. He took this picture of a butterfly and flowers that I thought was so pretty. His name is Roy Gorman Jr. We appreciate the service we get from Davidson EMC.

Yvonne Joyce, Madison

Homemade Butter

The language of curds and whey

Carolina Country readers are still churning out comments on how butter was once made by using manual churns, whole milk and cream (see "Letters" in the April, May, June and July magazines). It's almost as though the chore is so rare these days that people who remember it not only hope the process survives, but they also want to make sure the rest of us know just what they endured.

As you read the following excerpts, you'll also notice a special vocabulary associated with the work of hand-churning butter. Not only is the chore itself disappearing, the vocabulary is, too. Except, of course, in Carolina Country.

—MG

The fact is: Butter is made from whole milk that has clabbered. Cottage cheese is made from skimmed clabbered milk. I am an old-time churner, 81 years old.

Lois Duncan, Otto

I, too, would like to comment on "clapper" as I knew it. Churning the sour milk was my job for years. Mother collected the milk (whole), and when it "turned" I had to churn it until the the churn or butter came to the top. That was taken from the liquid milk and shaped into great butter. The remaining liquid in the churn was delicious buttermilk

Elmore Coleman, Greensboro

You churn the whole milk cream clabber and whey, and this is what you get: butter and buttermilk, the very best butter and buttermilk. Skim off the butter after you churn, and wash and salt the butter. But do not add no salt in that buttermilk! Salt kills the flavor of good, rich, non-fat buttermilk.

Naomi Styron, Pink Hill

In bygone days I churned a lot of cream sweet. It always makes good butter. Jersey or Guernsey cows have the best sweet cream. My mother-in-law skimmed the cream off and let lots of milk go in. She'd let it set to sour, and the milk in cream would clabber. That made real sharp butter-milk. Let the milk sour to make clabber cheese.

Zelma West Reavis, Harmony

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Homemade Butter

Here in Transylvania and Jackson County you had whole milk, let it sour, and called it clabber. If you ate it with a spoon, you called it curds. If you let it set long, water would come to the top, and you called that whey. You churned it to separate the butter from milk, and what you had left you called buttermilk.

Helen Owen, Lake Toxaway

Clabbered milk is the curds and whey of Little Miss Muffet fame, the curds being the solid portion and the whey the mostly clear liquid. When making cottage cheese you hang the curds only in a cloth in a cool place, squeezing gently periodically. As a child in Arkansas I used to eat curds and whey (we also called it clabbered milk) with a little salt, pepper and a spoon. Only fresh milk will produce it. Pasteurized gives you only sour milk.

James Johnson, Chesapeake, Va.

I have churned, and I have seen neighbors churning. The lady who wrote about churning in the June issue of Carolina Country was not from Ramseur in Randolph County. She is all wrong about churning in Randolph County the old-fashioned way. Mountain folks may have churned her way. People around 50 to 70 years ago churned clabber milk. They did not churn until their milk clabbered. We also made clabber cheese, but not much. We needed the buttermilk to drink and cook with.

So don't say someone is wrong because their ways were not like yours. Everyone has ways and rights to do as they have been taught.

Gillie Smith, Asheboro

I have lived in the country all of my life and from birth until middle age we had a family cow so that we could have sweetmilk, butter and buttermilk. We took the sweetmilk out of the ice box (no electricity available) and let it clabber. We then churned it until all of the butter came to the top. I think it was butter because it looked like butter, tasted like butter, and we called it butter. What was left we called buttermilk. We never made any cheese. Ever heard of cheesemilk?

M.P. Eddins Jr., Wadesboro

I would put about three gallons of freshly milked milk into a stoneware churn at around 6:00 or 6:30 p.m., cover it well, and let it stand overnight. It would be clabbered in the morning. I could tell by leaning the churn over to one side. The milk would pull away from the side of the churn in one big clump. That told me it was clabbered, ready to churn. Up and down I would go with the dasher through the hole in the churn lid until butter would form in a yellow ring around the hole in the churn lid and around the dasher handle. Then it was finished.

All I had to do then was form the butter that was floating on top of the milk into a ball and remove it off the milk. I'd wash it a large bowl by adding cool water and working all the milk out of the butter. I would add a dash of salt, form a round patty, and bring out the hot biscuits and jelly. What a life! The milk at that point was fresh buttermilk instead of clabber, ready to chill and enjoy at lunch time with a square of muffin cornbread.

Nora M. Reynolds, Candor

Clabbered milk is used for both clabbered cheese (cottage cheese) and buttermilk. It is true that sweet cream can be churned to make sweet creamy butter, but what remains of the milk is not buttermilk—not unless it is left to clabber, then stirred well.

The reason for the tall churns (stone or wooden) was that they could be filled with whole milk and left in a warm place to clabber before churning. You'd get four or five gallons of good, thick sour buttermilk, and several pounds of a stronger-flavored butter (best for baking pound cakes or buttering biscuits).

Eloise Morgan, Salisbury

It's quite obvious there are different ways of doing things. Right or wrong this was my way, and it worked very well.

I never tried making cottage cheese. I would take what milk I needed for churning, along with the cream I had skimmed from milk that wasn't needed for drinking, and put it all in the churn. When the milk soured and turned to clabber, usually about 24 hours, I would put the dasher in and churn until the butter collected on top of the milk. This butter was then skimmed from the top with a slotted spoon and put into a pan of cold water to be "washed" several times to take out the sour taste. I molded it into half-pound cakes. What we had left was fat-free buttermilk for drinking and making homemade buttermilk biscuits and pies, among other things.

Buttermilk recipes might be of interest to this "fat free" age.

Edna McLemau, Turke

How would you like to work from your home in your bathrobe?

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I grew up in the Marion, N.C. area, and I say you churn whole milk that has turned sour and clabbered. It can be called clabber and used either for churning to make butter and buttermilk, or heated to make cottage cheese.

I think we need to examine the word clabber as a verb and noun. Clabber the verb means to curdle as milk, to coagulate, which means the milk has to clabber before it is churned and made into butter and buttermilk. The noun clabber means milk which has become sour. I think we all know that butter is made from the oily or fatty substance in whole milk (cream). Today's market gives us cottage cheese made from whole milk or skim milk.

Frances Gleichmann, Baltimore, Md.

The milk that is churned is indeed clabbered or it would not make butter or buttermilk. Fresh milk is poured into the churn to sour and clabber, the cream rises to the top and does not clabber. When you churn the milk the butter forms from the cream, and when it is ready you separate the butter from the milk. In the summer months the milk clabbers real quick, but sometimes in the winter months, Mama had to set the churn near the fireplace to let it to clabber. Summer churning made real runny butter, and it was hard to separate.

As a child it was my job to churn the milk, a job I detested because I thought it took too long. We did not have electricity on our farm until the middle 1940s, but the first electric appliances my parents got were a refrigerator, iron, and electric churn. You know, the electric churn never did as good a job as the old dasher did.

Dora W. Boyce, Monroe

I grew up in rural Anderson County, S.C. churning milk in a churn (or crock). All of the WHOLE MILK left over after drinking or cooking was put in a churn to sour (or clabber). When the milk clabbered, we churned the thick clabber to make butter. The liquid that was left in the churn was buttermilk. In addition to making butter from clabbered milk, one can also make cottage cheese. I checked with several senior ladies who grew up in rural areas and continued to live there in their adult years. They "clabberated" with me in confirming the above.

Kathryn Ayers, Rutherford County

Maybe all this discussion comes down to semantics.

Helen K. Samuels, Clyde

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A Southern Railway excursion passenger train in front of Historic Spencer Shops.

RAILROADING



REVIVED

by Joe Zentner

One hundred years ago, the Southern Railway Company began building a massive locomotive repair facility in Rowan County at a location that was halfway between the railroad's Washington, D.C. and Atlanta terminals.

Next month, as a commemoration of what was once a traditional Labor Day festivity, some of the people who worked at the shops will gather to remember the proud life of one of the nation's major railway operations. During that reunion, the

**The memory
of railroads is
alive and well
after 100
years of the
Spencer Shops**

big Roundhouse where many of them worked will be dedicated as a newly restored memorial to the glory of the Spencer Shops and the people who built it.

Dedicated during the centennial year of the Spencer Shops, the Roundhouse is a giant accomplishment for all the organizations that have

worked with the North Carolina Transportation Museum at Historic Spencer Shops since the late 1970s. It is destined to become a popular attraction for those who enjoy learning about our nation's railroads.

The North Carolina Transportation Museum's mission is to preserve the history of inland transportation in the Tar Heel State. That history includes railways, highways and flight. But the museum's primary focus is rail transportation. The museum is today a State Historic Site, administered by The Department of Cultural Resources and

continued on next page

continued from previous page

is located on 57 acres of land that Southern Railway donated to the state.

History of the Spencer Shops

Steel wheel rolling on steel rail achieves the most frictionless movement — short of levitation — yet devised. A train can move more tonnage per unit of traction, per unit of fuel consumed, and per staff involved than any other mode of transportation.

The Southern Railway Company cut a big swath in the South's economic development. Southern was formed on July 1, 1894 through reorganization of the Richmond & Danville Railroad. The R&D had, since 1871, leased the state-controlled North Carolina Railroad. The NCRR was a 223-mile line between Charlotte and Goldsboro.

During the Civil War, the Confederate government backed construction of a link between the R&D terminus at Danville and the NCRR. As a result, the Piedmont Railroad was completed in 1864 between Greensboro and Danville, a distance of about 60 miles. The Piedmont was built too late to affect the fortunes of war, but it did put in place a piece of railroad track that created the north-south through route between Atlanta and Washington, D.C.

Before the Civil War, the NCRR repaired its locomotives at a location 22 miles east of Greensboro. Creation of the Southern Railway and establishment of a through route between Washington and Atlanta caused the new company to seek a new locomotive repair facility. Southern decided that the location should be halfway between the two major terminals, in order to better service the railway's steam locomotives. Consequently, a tract of land two miles north of Salisbury was decided upon in 1896 as the location for a repair facility.

The shops and the town that grew up around them took the name of Southern's first president, Samuel Spencer. Spencer Shops grew rapidly. An immense repair shop with an 80-ton overhead crane was constructed in 1906. The wooden roundhouse was replaced in 1924 with a concrete structure. It covered more than 120,000 square feet and was named for R. L. Julian, the roundhouse foreman at the time.

By 1925, more than 2,500 people worked at Spencer Shops. They walked to work from houses in town and ate at restaurants located across the street from the shops. Each year on Labor Day, shop employees gathered as one big family to

continued on page 10



The Roundhouse and turntable, 1938.

The Roundhouse

Hub of locomotive repair and maintenance

Built in 1924, the Roundhouse is a C-shaped structure used for the light repairs and maintenance of steam locomotives. Named for R.L. Julian, the Roundhouse foreman at the time it was built, the facility at Spencer was the only one named for an individual on the Southern Railway System.

With 37 bays, the Roundhouse covered more than 120,000 square feet. A 100-foot electric turntable rotated locomotives to selected tracks leading to the bays for servicing. Pits running the length of each stall made for easy access under the locomotive. Wood-block floors under-foot absorbed oil and the impact of falling objects. An overhead crane picked up locomotive parts and shuttled them to the machine shop where overhauls and heavy repairs could be completed.

In 1953, eight tracks in the Roundhouse were altered to service diesels. Where simple pits had been located, platforms were built to allow maintenance workers access to the innards of diesels.

With the demise of Spencer, work at the Roundhouse also dropped off. Four stalls in the Roundhouse remained in use until 1979 for repairs on switchers based there.

Future of the Roundhouse

Restoration of the Roundhouse began in 1993, and plans for an exhibit were underway. The completed Roundhouse will tell the story of railroading in North Carolina and about the men and women who worked there.

Visitors will enter the building from the rear into Bay 4. Their first sight will be the restored Seaboard #544 steam locomotive, looking as if it has just been serviced in the Roundhouse and is ready to be backed out. Visitors will then enter into the orientation area in Bays 2 and 3. They will be able to look down into the drop pits where locomotive wheels were removed for servicing. A fiber optic display will explain the workings of a steam locomotive and exhibits will explain the workings of the Roundhouse. A video presentation will document the history of Spencer Shops and explain how the facility operated.

After exiting the orientation area, visitors will explore the collection of rolling stock stored in the remainder of the first 16 bays. As many as 21 locomotives and rail cars will be on display in this area. Graphic displays will give the history of each car with photographs of the rolling stock in use.

The former washroom will be used as an exhibit area devoted to the Spencer worker. All of the crafts associated with the site such as boilermakers, machinists, trainmen and

continued on page 10

continued from page 9

celebrate. Spencer, N.C. was a close-knit company town whose mission was to keep Southern Railway's trains moving night and day.

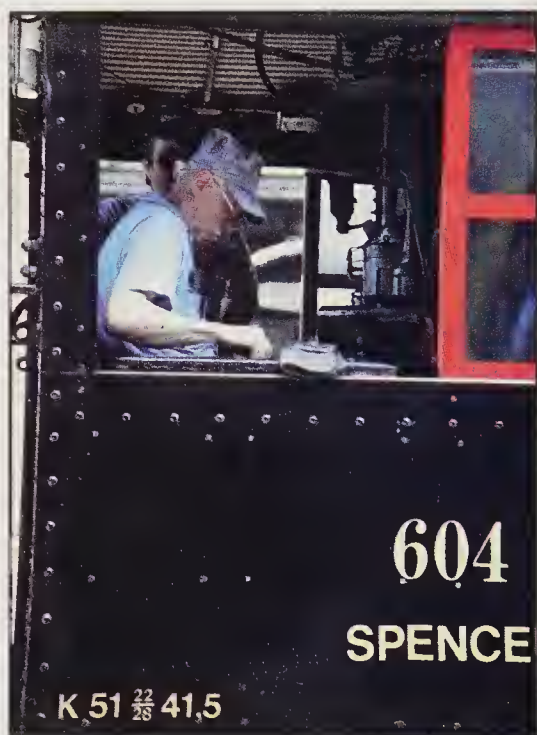
Things rolled merrily along until the end of World War II, when Southern's management decided to switch from steam to diesel locomotives. The change did not take long. In 1953, Southern's last steam engine was taken out of service. At Spencer Shops, eight tracks in the roundhouse were altered in order to service diesels. However, Southern soon decided that Spencer Shops themselves belonged with the memory of the steam era. In 1960 the main shops closed, and in the 1970s the entire operation eventually stopped.

In 1977 and 1979, Southern deeded parcels of land to North Carolina, to be used for a State Transportation Museum. The museum opened to the public in 1983.

What To See And Do

The museum's on-site excursion train offers rides behind vintage steam and diesel locomotives. Passengers experience the sights, sounds, bumps and smells of a locomotive ride.

The steam train runs four times on Saturdays, and three times on Sundays. Diesel locomotive rides run Monday through Friday at 11 a.m., 1, 2, and 3 p.m. Weekend steam rides are offered April 1 through October, while the diesel trains continue through mid-December. There is a small fee to ride the trains, but admission to the museum itself is free.



The excursion train cab.

The three-mile-long rail trip includes a narrated history of Spencer Shops. A stop is made along the way in order to inspect the roundhouse. Built around tracks in the roundhouse area are platforms which give visitors an eye-level view into passenger cars and locomotives.

In addition to the train excursions and rail-related exhibits, the North Carolina Transportation Museum examines the history of other forms of transportation in the state. For example, the exhibit entitled "People, Places and Times" includes many examples of early modes of transportation. Included in the exhibit is an Indian dugout canoe, a Conestoga wagon from the 1850s, two airplanes, a turn-of-the-century mail carrier buggy, and one of the state's first Highway Patrol cars.

Vintage automobiles can be viewed at the display entitled "Bumper to Bumper." Among the cars on display is a 1904 Oldsmobile Runabout, a 1907 International Autobuggy, a 1922 Buick Touring Car, a 1937 Studebaker President, a 1959 Edsel Corsair, and a 1948 Lincoln Continental.

The 1948 Lincoln was launched after Ford Motor Company executive Edsel Ford asked his company's design team to develop a European-style American car that would be "strictly continental." European influences in the car include a squared roof line, high rear deck and flowing lines. Other features include push-button door handles and a V12 engine. No other name was ever considered for the car, which began rolling off the assembly line in 1939. The luxurious Lincoln Continental became an instant automotive classic.

Although the North Carolina Transportation Museum chronicles the general history of transportation in the state, including automobiles, airplanes and boats, through exhibits and restorations, the real stars of the show are trains and railroad equipment. A visit here is both fun and educational.

The museum is located just north of Salisbury at 411 South Salisbury Avenue in Spencer. Signs mark the way from Exit 79 off I-85. Museum hours through October 31 are Monday - Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays, 1-5 p.m. For more information about the museum, train excursions or group tours, call the museum at (704) 636-2889.

Joe Zentner is a freelance writer in Cary.

The Roundhouse

continued from page 9

carmen will be highlighted in this area. There will also be exhibits on the role African-Americans played and everyday life in a shop town.

The ticket office will be restored to its original appearance. This is where Roundhouse workers got their orders for the work to be performed on the locomotives. Visitors will receive their orders here as well. A quiz of Spencer facts can be picked up here and visitors can get answers as they go through the rest of the exhibit.

Bays 17-20 will house more exhibit space. The exhibits here will focus on the history of railroading in North Carolina and Spencer Shops. The North Carolina section will feature personal stories about railroading in the state and highlight the many changes to passenger and freight service. Artifacts will include a diesel locomotive and an explanation of how it works. A scale model of the Spencer Shops will show the main buildings that were at the site and explain the growth and decline of the Shops.

Visitors will ascend a ramp to the rear of the building where they will be able to look into Bays 21-32. This is where the many volunteers will be working to restore the rolling stock that is in the collection at the museum.

The last five bays will feature the premier cars in the collection as well as exhibits on rail travel and the technology of railroading. Displays will include the development of communications and interactive exhibits including the view from a locomotive and a caboose. To complete their tour of the Roundhouse, visitors will also be able to go below the decking to look up at the cars in this area.

Coming Events for the Spencer Shops Centennial

For more information, call (800) 222-5579

Sept. 14 Spencer Shops Worker Reunion

Sept. 15 Roundhouse Dedication

Sept. 21-22 Antique Truck Show

Sept. 28-29 9th annual Rail Days, featuring "Thomas the Tank Engine"

Sept. 28-29 Centennial Dinner on the Diner (admission fee)

Oct. 12 Steamfest '96 in downtown Spencer

Dec. 7-8, 14-15 Santa Claus Special Train rides (admission fee)

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*Jones-Onslow
EMC servicemen
with their grateful
neighbors
Linwood and
Bobbie Meadows.*

Cooperatives care for their communities

Last May 14, a Jones-Onslow EMC line crew was replacing a utility pole in Jones County when they saw smoke pouring out the gable end of a nearby house. The servicemen worked their way into the attic to douse the fire with an extinguisher and water hose.

In the commotion, Bobbie Meadows ran out of her house where she saw her husband, Linwood, talking with EMC crew members. They told her the attic was "lit up like a Christmas tree."

Nine minutes later, when the fire department arrived, the fire was out.

"My husband and I couldn't have done that," Bobbie Meadows said. "The house would have been gone." She said the Good Lord put the Jones-Onslow EMC crew there at the right time.

Bobbie and Linwood Meadows are not the only co-op members in North Carolina who consider their electric utility to be a blessing to their community.

Reacting to the Meadows house fire came naturally to the Jones-Onslow men, not only because they are trained to be vigilant, but also because cooperatives take seriously their role in the community. A few months earlier, Jones-Onslow employees participated in an Onslow County clean-up program by turning in old files for recycling. The co-op also co-sponsored an American Red Cross blood drive in Jacksonville and gave \$25,000 in grants to local schools this past year.

Concern for community is one of seven official principles that guide cooperatives around the world. The principle says, "While

focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members."

**"While focusing on
member needs,
cooperatives work for
the sustainable
development of their
communities through
policies accepted by
their members."**

— Principle No. 7,
International Cooperative
Alliance

This month, North Carolina's electric cooperatives are promoting one of their most popular community programs, the Bright Ideas Grants program. (See page 14).

And last month, the state's electric cooperatives announced formation of a \$5 million revolving loan fund for economic development projects within co-op service areas. Cooperatives will be able to help finance construction of new buildings, renovation of existing facilities and projects such as water, sewer and roads to development sites.

"Electric cooperative members know the value of economic development in improving the quality of life in rural North Carolina," said Chuck Terrill, executive vice president of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, the wholesale power provider for the state's electric cooperatives. "This is another example of co-ops meeting the needs of their consumer-owners beyond providing power."

A well-known community program is the annual Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. In June, 50 North Carolina high school seniors spent a week touring the nation's capital as delegates of their cooperative to the Youth Tour.

Grants to school teachers, loans for building projects, tours to Washington, putting out house fires, organizing blood drives — do these seem like activities of your electric utility? They do if yours is an electric cooperative.

Here are other examples of co-op community involvement or projects they've completed in the past few months.

Albemarle EMC sponsored a "Soil and Water: Yours for Life" poster and essay contest in Currituck County in cooperation with the Albemarle Conservation District.

Blue Ridge Electric gave every elementary school in its seven-county service area a book about caring for the natural environment. Co-op members also contributed more than \$30,000 in 1995 to a fund that helps others pay their electric bills during hard times.

Brunswick EMC recently formed the Private Rural Investors Mobilization Effort (PRIME) to foster private investment in farming, growing businesses in Brunswick and Columbus counties. Brunswick's mini-grant program to local schools was a model for the statewide Bright Ideas program.

Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative runs the Project Care program that helps needy families in weather-related crises. The co-op gave \$10,000 to Carteret County Social Services, who distributes the funds.

Central EMC employees raised \$1,580 for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and gave more than \$700 to the March of

Dimes by participating in a 5-mile walk. Central's "Member Care" program helps those who need assistance paying electric bills, purchasing fuel oil, natural gas or firewood, or fans.



Mont Olive student Daimein Simpson learned about electricity from Don Keen of Tri-County EMC in Dudley during a "shadow" program.

Crescent EMC's "Operation Round Up" collected donations for charity from members who round up their monthly bill payments to the nearest dollar. The Crescent EMC's Women's Committee provided a \$300 scholarship to a student attending one of the local community colleges. The "Crescent Rollers" bowling team raised \$1,383 for Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Local students in a "shadowing" program visited Crescent EMC to observe work operations.

Davidson EMC has Member Advisory Committees in the Lexington and Madison areas. Its monthly newsletter regularly posts community events notices.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC raised over \$2,700 for the March of Dimes through a car wash, bake sale, yard sale and walk-a-thon. The co-op's Women's Committee awards a scholarship to a consumer-member attending a two-year technical school or community college and raised money for the Tarboro Community Outreach Center. Employees this year took a six-week Spanish

(continued on next page)

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(continued from previous page)

course to help them communicate with the growing Spanish-speaking population in the co-op's territory.

Four County EMC's "Operation Round-Up" donated \$3,000 to the Special Olympics. Co-op employees donated 21 pints of blood to the American Red Cross. A Design-A-Christmas Card contest was offered for children in grades K-5.

Halifax EMC demonstrated various electric household appliances that can assist elderly and disabled people cope with daily chores. The co-op donated two computers to Halifax County Schools. The Volunteers in Action helped staff the Kid's Club booth at the Warren County fair.

Harkers Island EMC gave a grant to the emerging Core Sounds Waterfowl Museum and has long been active in the island's rescue squad. Recently, the co-op helped place a flagpole at the Harkers Island bridge.

Haywood EMC employees donated \$3,500 to the Waynesville United Way.

Lumbree River EMC's wide-reaching "Help a Needy Friend" program donated over \$15,000 recently to assist members who could not afford to pay their electric bills. The co-op hosted four junior high school students from Robeson County who want to become engineers and regularly gives Youth Award scholarships. A seniors health insurance information program was held at the Red Springs office.



Since 1992, Union EMC has kept an eye on the security of its communities.

Pee Dee EMC attracted over 400 people to a "Power to Say No" event designed to combat drug abuse through community awareness.

Piedmont EMC sponsors a quarterly blood drive and participates in the Adopt-A-Highway program.

Pitt & Greene EMC is a partner in North Carolina's Fleet Watch crime prevention program whereby employees are trained to spot suspicious or criminal activity and notify law enforcement using the fleet radio system.

(continued on next page)



Music teacher Robin Smathers could purchase instruments for Weaverville students thanks to a Bright Ideas grant. Deadline for this year's grant applications is Sept. 27.

Wanted: teachers with Bright Ideas

This summer, hundreds of North Carolina teachers will briefly abandon their hard-earned vacation time to get a jump start on the next school year. With plenty of creative thinking and a modest amount of paperwork, many of them will be rewarded later this year with a Bright Ideas grant from North Carolina's electric cooperatives.

The Bright Ideas grant program benefits North Carolina students by providing funds for educators in grades K-12 to support innovative, creative and effective initiatives that cannot be covered by traditional school financing.

Since the program's beginnings in 1994, the cooperatives have awarded more than \$518,000 to schools across North Carolina. These grants have funded 687 projects benefiting over 200,000 students.

Educators in all disciplines in grades K-12 may apply for the grants. During the last two years, for example, Bright Ideas grants have helped fund a satellite TV system for Central Cabarrus High School in Cabarrus County, a nature trail at Zebulon Middle School in Wake County and musical instruments for students at Weaverville Elementary and Primary Schools in Buncombe County.

Kay Luffman of Sparta Middle School received a grant to fund Career Day for 8th grade students in Alleghany County. "The Bright Ideas grant offered the students a window of opportunity that would otherwise be impossible. Minds were challenged, goals were set, dreams were dreamed. This is the role of education: to offer opportunity and challenge."

Grant applications must be postmarked no later than September 27, 1996. Individuals may apply for grants up to \$500; teams of educators, for grants up to \$2,000. The money will be awarded between November 1, 1996 and March 1, 1997.

Grant proposals must be submitted on an official application or duplicate of the form. Copies are available from school principals in North Carolina, from your local electric cooperative. You may also call the Bright Ideas toll-free number: 800-662-8835, ext. 299, or write to: Bright Ideas Grant Program, Carolina Electric Cooperatives, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611-7306.

Roanoke EMC's Electric Care Trust, Inc. gave \$7,000 to charitable organizations, assisted in a high school's electric car program and donated to a Cub Scout clothes drive.

Randolph EMC helped update the computer lab at Randleman High School, raised over \$1,000 for the American Cancer Society, and participated in the March of Dimes Team Walk.

South River EMC began its "Give Us an A" program that awards savings bonds to member students who earn A's in school. The co-op also hosted a booth at the Harnett County 4-H festival and the Betsy Johnson Memorial Hospital Children's Fair. As a "Business Partner in Education," co-op staff assist teachers and principals of three local schools with tasks such as tutoring, judging contests and sponsoring reading programs.

Tideland EMC employees participated in the Relay for Life walk-a-thon and raised over \$2,200. A new "Coat Closet Project" collected 1,014 coats for the needy last winter.

Tri-County EMC lends its lobby as a showcase for student artwork. A recent open house included blood pressure checks, door prizes of \$25 electric bill credits and the distribution of capital credit checks.

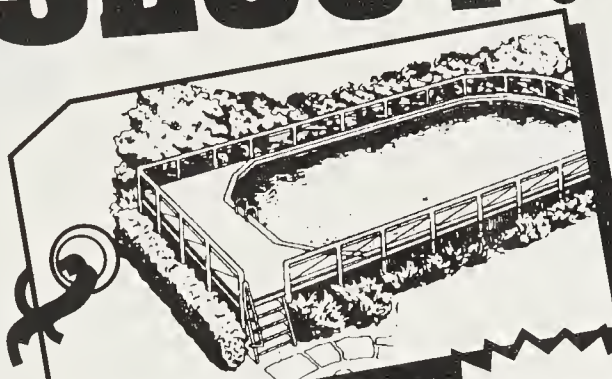
Union EMC sponsors an annual "Electrical Safety Coloring Contest" for children. It runs a model "Watt's for Christmas" toy collection program in late fall. It's Electric Eye on Crime program was the co-op prototype for training staff to notice and report suspicious activity in communities.



Wake EMC pioneered the "Give Us an A" program that awards savings bonds to member students who receive A's in school. The "Energy Awareness Contest" encourages members to record power usage. The co-op helped build a playground in Zebulon and contributed to an effort to fight domestic violence through a hotline. Scholarships totaling \$3,000 were awarded to local youth and adult students.

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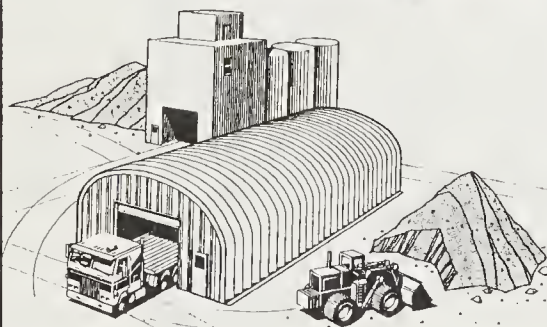
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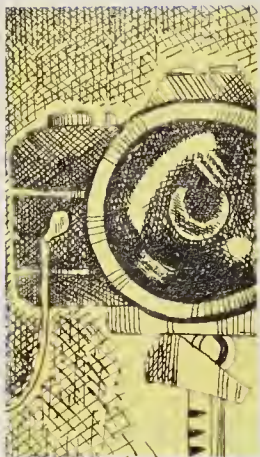
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"Blackberry Sonker Tonight"

A Surry County girl picking blackberries on a farm in view of Pilot Knob is the subject of a painting by Mount Airy artist Arvil "Shep" Shepherd.

Sonker is the name for a fruit pie, and they say that only Surry County people know how to make them, especially in late summer. The model for the girl in this painting was Jenna Bowman, who was 2 years old when Shepherd painted her. She carries a Pilot Knob Coffee can to collect the berries. The scenery reflects the Beulah community farm where his wife, Donna, grew up. It's near the Edwards-Franklin House, where the annual Sonker Festival takes place this year on Oct. 5.

Shep Shepherd is a painter who grew up in Wilkes County and lives in the White Plains community of Surry County, where he is a member of Surry-Yadkin Electric Membership Corporation. He and his wife own an art gallery in downtown Mount Airy, across Main Street from Snappy Lunch.

"Blackberry Sonker Tonight" is available in prints (\$50) and remarques (\$100) from the artist. Image size is 11 by 16½ inches (on 80-pound acid-free paper 16 by 20 inches). For more information, contact Scorpionne Art Gallery, 148 N. Main St., Mount Airy, NC 27030. Phone (910) 789-5387 or (800) 215-4999.



North Carolina girls and farms.

"Taffy of Torpedo Junction" is back in print

After being out of print for over a year, a Tar Heel favorite, "Taffy of Torpedo Junction," by Nell Wise Wechter, will be published by the University of North Carolina Press this month.

The decision for UNC Press to publish the book came after young fans sent letters requesting the book remain in print, and newspapers publicized the book's historical and entertainment value to generations of readers.

The author's daughter, Marcia Wechter Kass, also worked diligently to keep the book alive. "If there's something I can do to keep 'Taffy' afloat and available to a new generation, I think I should try," Kass said.

The previous publisher, who first produced the book in 1957, took "Taffy" out of print when sales showed a serious lag. The new edition will contain a forward by Bland Simpson, one of the author's former students.

"Taffy of Torpedo Junction" is fiction based on historical events during World War II, when German U-boats turned an area around Cape Hatteras into Torpedo Junction by sinking more than 60 American boats in a six-month period. Nell Wise Wechter, a teacher and native of the Outer Banks, based the adventure story of 13-year-old Taffy Willis on places and people she knew on Hatteras Island, including Carol Dillon (then Carol White) as Taffy and her mother, Maude Miller White.

The book will sell for \$9.95 in softcover and will be available in bookstores or from UNC Press, PO Box 2288, Chapel Hill, NC 27518-2288. Phone: (800) 848-6224.



They put Chatham County farms on the map

A new brochure and map tells about the organic farms and nurseries of the Chatham County area, which claims more organic farms than any North Carolina county. Included among the 21 farms are are Celebrity Goat Dairy, Fearington Farmers Market and Long Haven Corriedales. For the brochure, contact the Chatham County United Chamber of Commerce, 1609 East 11th St., Siler City, NC 27344. Phone: (919) 742-3333.

Major survey will look at state's equine industry

For the first time in two decades, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture will conduct a major equine survey to collect information about the equine industry in the state.

The survey will be conducted in two phases. Phase I, this summer, will collect inventory, value, and owner demographic information. On January 1, Phase II will begin its focus on equine related expense, income, and asset data.

Equine owners, as well as boarding, riding, training and similar equine operations will be contacted to participate in the survey to establish baseline numbers for the North Carolina equine industry.

For more information about the 1996 Equine Survey, contact Dee Webb or Teresa Bunch of the Statistics Division of NCDA at (919) 733-7293.

Books

by Peggy Howe



New books on regional Civil War history.

General Robert F. Hoke, Lee's Modest Warrior

Daniel W. Barefoot, 452 pages

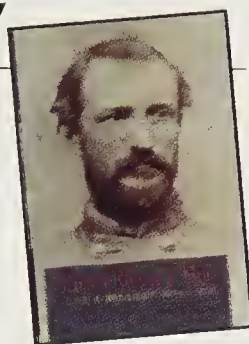
A towering figure in his time, Gen. Robert F. Hoke has been neglected by modern historians. Daniel W. Barefoot offers a long overdue, major study of his life—civilian and military. Mustered into Confederate service in April 1861, Hoke became a major general in three years, at age 26 the youngest Southern officer of that rank in the Confederacy. Called “the North Carolina (Robert E.) Lee,” and even touted as Lee’s successor, Hoke fought in almost every significant battle in the eastern theatre.

Barefoot begins with Hoke’s distinguished lineage, continues through his childhood to induction into the Confederate army. He covers Hoke’s war years and meteoric rise in rank, his homecoming, and then a half century of Reconstruction. He died July 3, 1912.

Barefoot, who shares Lincoln County roots with Hoke and other distinguished Confederate generals, is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Photographs, a family tree, endnotes, bibliography and index enhance the text.

Available for \$24.95 (hardcover) from bookstores or John F. Blair, 1406 Plaza Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27103. Phone: (800) 222-9796.



Sherman’s March through North Carolina: A Chronology

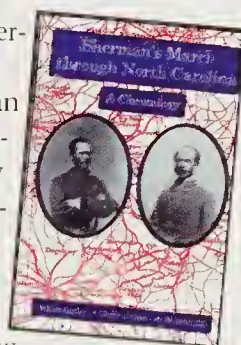
Wilson Angley, Jerry L. Cross, Michael Hill, 129 pages

The spring of 1865 brought terror to North Carolina in the form of Gen. William T. Sherman and his forces, advancing steadily from the south where already his Union forces left total devastation in Georgia and South Carolina.

The N.C. Division of Archives and History offers a new book detailing, day by day, Sherman’s presence in North Carolina. Authors are Research Branch members Wilson Angley, Part I, March 1-14; Jerry L. Cross, Part II, March 15-April 11; and Michael Hill, Part III, April 12-May 4, 1865. They provide graphic accounts of Sherman’s presence and civilian reactions from newspapers of the day, quotations from civilians, diary entries, private letters and official documents, detailing the “burning, looting, thievery and murder.”

Complementing the text are a foreword, introduction, maps, notes, bibliography and index.

Available in bookstores for \$8 (softcover) plus \$3 for postage from Historical Publications Section, Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2807. Phone: (919) 733-7442.



Sherman’s March Through the Carolinas

John G. Barrett, 325 pages

A new edition of “Sherman’s March Through the Carolinas” covers a drive designed to “bring him (Sherman) fame and glory and a high place in the annals of American military history “while he was” . . . inflicting all the damage possible against the war resources of the region.”

John Barrett offers details of the general’s own feelings, life, and early military career as well as his pre-war happiness with military service in the South after West Point.

Barrett is professor emeritus of history at Virginia Military Institute and author of several books on the Civil War.

Available for \$15.95 (softcover) from bookstores or from the University of North Carolina press, PO Box 2288, Chapel Hill, NC 27518-2288. Phone: (800) 848-6224. (Hardcover edition, published in 1956, is still available for \$27.50.)

Two Great Rebel Armies: An Essay in Confederate Military History

Richard M. McMurry, 204 pages

A new edition presents a contrasting perspective on the Confederate Army of Tennessee and the Army of Northern Virginia. The Army of Tennessee roughly included the area from the Appalachian Mountains on the east to the Ozarks and from Ohio and Missouri Rivers on the north to the Gulf on the south. Richard M. McMurry compares the two armies.

Charts, graphs, notes, appendix, bibliography and index add to the text.

McMurry, author and historian, formerly of Raleigh, now living and working in Americus, Ga., specializes in the history of the Civil War in the West.

Available from bookstores for \$14.95 (softcover) or from the University of North Carolina Press, PO Box 2288, Chapel Hill, NC. 27515-2288; (800)-848-6224.

(Hardcover edition published in 1989 is still available for \$22.50.)

Touring the Carolinas’ Civil War Sites

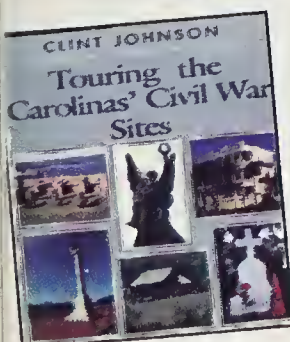
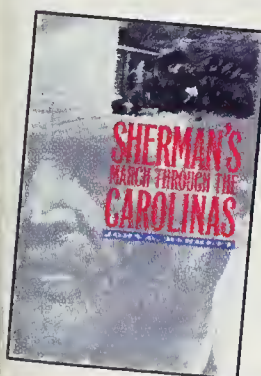
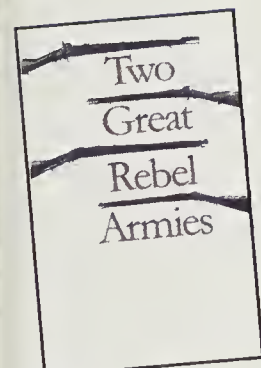
Clint Johnson, 384 pages

Famous and lesser known Civil War memorials. Skirmish sites, battlefields, buildings and towns are included here in 19 tours through North Carolina and South Carolina. As you travel you’ll learn history of the area and personalities associated with the sites.

Maps, driving directions and black and white photographs accompany each tour.

Clint Johnson worked with local historians in each of the regions covered in this book. He has written corporate histories and was senior writer for “Seven Days in Winston-Salem.”

Available from bookstores for \$19.95 (softcover) or from the publisher John F. Blair, 1406 Plaza Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27103. Phone: (800) 222-9796.





Electricity is a valuable resource, but it's nothing to play with.

A spoonful of sugar: showmanship sells safety

Two seventh graders hurried out the school's front door, headed for the flagpole. They'd been assigned to take down the flag for the day, and the final bell could ring at any minute.

When they saw Fulton Smith standing behind his van, both girls greeted him enthusiastically.

"Your program was awesome, man!" said one.

"Yeah. It was cool! I want you on MY team, man!" the other added.

Fulton Smith is a former electric co-op lineman who is now a safety training specialist with the North Carolina's state office of electric cooperatives. He thanked the girls and smiled as he wearily closed the van's rear door. He'd had a long day serving as a guest instructor at Raleigh's Martin Middle School, teaching the basics of electric safety to seventh grade science classes. By the time his first class had assembled at 7:30 a.m., he'd already transported his tabletop demonstration unit from his office to the school, and set it up to illustrate his key points. It features a small house attached to a miniature power line, which can be energized with the flip of a switch.

I was on hand for some of those classes because I'd helped arrange for Fulton's presentation through Kris Thomasson, science teacher for one of Martin's seventh grade teams. The team included my 13-year-old daughter Ellen.

Fulton uses small toys to show how dangerous electricity can be. He controls the flow of power but still wears protective gloves and holds the toys with a special holder. As he moves a doll near the tiny power line, a small arc dances out from the line to blacken the doll's leg. To simulate an emergency, he drapes a power line across a toy truck. With his help, a carefree "Barbie" wanders by, and the electricity quickly leaps from the truck, finding a quick "path to the ground" through the doll. Later, Fulton brings out the "Hapless Homeowner" lugging a metal ladder. Sure enough, the ladder makes contact with the power line, and the arc reappears.

Over the years, Fulton has mesmerized hundreds of students with this showmanship, which is based on a simple text: Electricity is a valuable resource, but it's nothing to play with; it must be treated with respect or it can be deadly.

At Martin Middle School, Ms. Thomasson gamely became his "assistant" in dramatizing how far professional linemen go to protect themselves from the hazards of electricity. She strapped on about 80 pounds of gear, including two sets of gloves. Even so, she was still able to pass Fulton's usual test of hand-eye coordination: using her fingers to pick up a penny from his outstretched hand.

Fulton and local co-op safety specialists present demonstrations like this in hundreds of schools throughout the state each year. They figure it will

someday help those students avoid "Barbie's" carelessness around electricity — and its unpleasant consequences. Fulton's counterpart at Blue Ridge Electric in Lenoir, for example, presented his demonstration in 40 schools in 1995-96, reaching nearly 2,000 students and teachers. It was also presented to several groups of adults.

"Every co-op has someone who can do something like this almost anytime for schools, civic clubs, fire departments or any other group," said Fulton, a veteran of 20 years in the rural electric program. "It takes some effort but it's important. We're eager to do it whenever we can."

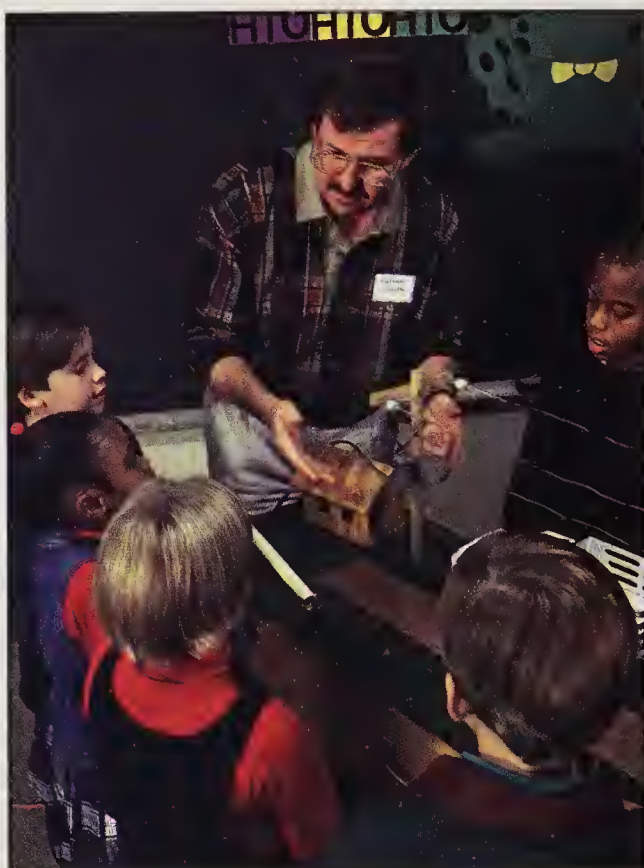
In his final class of the day at Martin Middle

School, he asked Ellen to serve as his model for the lineman outfit. She smiled through the process but later complained to me about being the center of attention. Yet, I'd swear she was absolutely beaming when Fulton brought out his Polaroid to snap a shot of her as the ultimate "fashion victim." Fulton makes sure all of his assistants get photos of themselves in uniform.

When Fulton packed up his equipment that afternoon, he had been on his feet all day, with only a brief mid-day break for lunch. He'd done his presentation for about 140 students in five classes, and he'd seen a teacher and four students rise to his Pick-Up-The-Penny challenge.

A few days later, Ellen brought home a huge handmade "Thank You" card the students had made for him, with personal notes scrawled all over it. I was pleased to be its courier. When I handed it to him the next day, I had no camera at hand — but Fulton was beaming, too.

Charles Gupton



Fulton Smith and his counterparts mesmerize thousands of students and adults each year with their tabletop safety demonstrations.

FYI

To schedule a safety demonstration for students or adults in your community, call your electric co-op to arrange it. Or call Nancy Gibson toll-free at 800 662-8835, ext. 351, and she will refer your request to your nearest co-op. If you get her voice mail, please leave a message.

Important Announcement to North Carolina Homeowners with Equity . . .

What Would You Do With An Extra \$3,600 to \$12,000 per year?

How to Get a Fast Mortgage Loan To Pay Off All Your Bills**

(Even If You've Been Turned Down By A Bank Or Mortgage Company)

ingham, N.C. - Ray and Becky were
ated. They'd bought the house 12 years
and it was five years old when they moved
Becky laughed out loud when she thought
to that time. Back then it seemed so big
beautiful. But now, 12 years and 3 kids
the house felt small and run down. The
e needed a new roof and her two youngest
Emily and Katie, were doubling up in the
10 x 12 bedroom.
years ago. Ray and Becky had a contractor
and talk to them about a new addition.
y remembered how excited she and Ray
were. They even paid to have the plans
up. But that was the year before Ray lost
b at the plant. She poured herself another
f coffee and recalled how depressed they
were. It was over a year before he got
er job. And during that time, they got
nd on everything.

No Summer Vacation

ere were so strapped for money one summer,
couldn't even take Emily and Katie to the
a for a few days for their annual vacation.
they finally got all caught up when Ray
back to work, it took them two years and
at time it had ruined their previously
et credit record, it was a vicious cycle. You
getting paid on Friday, sitting down on
tlay to pay bills and running out of money
e all the bills are paid.

"I Hit A Brick Wall"

they got caught up they tried again to
w the money for the addition. First they
rned down by the local bank, then a
rage company in town rejected them. They
pt hitting the same brick wall. Even
h Ray had gone back to work in another
mill making MORE money, the late
ents that showed up on his credit reports
the local banks and mortgage companies
a Ray felt like he was working JUST to
y monthly bills and doing nothing for
lf, Becky or the kids. Then he ran into
st Mortgage Company. Harvest helped
et a loan to pay off all his bills and
idate everything into one single payment
at as \$358 lower than he had been making.
aved him a whopping \$4,296 per year,
FREE. In the first year, that was enough
to close in the back porch, AND enough
er for new bikes for the kids.

Home Equity is the Key



Carole Eskew, Sr., V.P.

"If you have a minimum of 20% equity or more, there's a good chance we can help you save a lot of money every month by combining old bills and your old mortgage into one new and much lower payment. Or, we can help you get cash out of your home to buy a vacation home, start a business, whatever."

Compare your budget to this:

Amt.	Owed	Payment
\$12,000	2nd Mortgage	\$200 ⁰⁰
8,500	Auto Loan	375 ⁰⁰
2,000	VISA	100 ⁰⁰
2,000	MasterCard	100 ⁰⁰
\$25,000 Current Payment		\$775⁰⁰

-After Harvest Mortgage -

New Payment: \$187⁸²/mo.

APR 9.077% / 30 yr. term

You Save: \$587¹⁸/mo., \$7,046.16/yr.

** Rates subject to change*

"I couldn't believe it. We closed our loan 9 days after the first day I talked to them on the phone."

Debbie C., Dallas

"We ended up paying off all our bills and rolling them all into one single payment. After we did, our total monthly payments dropped by almost \$400 per month."

Billy and Judy., Columbus

"Thanks to you and your great company, we feel reborn. Words can not express the relief we feel. We are so glad this battle with the bills is almost over."

James and Laurie C.

Recent Loans Include:

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- A \$100,000 loan to a borrower who couldn't verify income through tax returns.
- A \$95,000 bill-consolidation loan that saved the borrower over \$8,100 per year and a whopping \$124,000 over the loan period.
(No singlewides, please)

No Ivory Towers

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- Loans to borrowers with a lot of equity homeowners who have slow credit or have even been bankrupt.
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- Loans for borrowers who want to do additions or remodel their homes.

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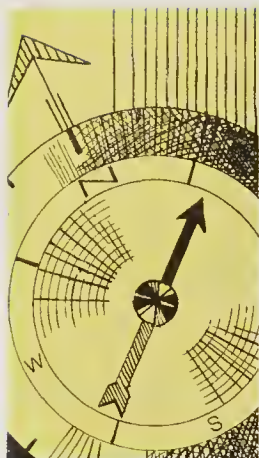
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Here, There and Everywhere



Aug. 1–Sept. 8

"The Daly News"

August 1-10, Blowing Rock
Presented by the Blowing Rock Stage Company. (704) 295-9627.

Boating Safety Course

Aug. 5-6, Beaufort
Conducted by N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. Optional \$5 donation to the Beaufort Train Depot. 8:30 a.m. to noon. (919) 728-7317.

First Aid

Aug. 6 & 8, Lexington
Classes conducted by the Lexington/Davidson Chapter of the American Red Cross. 6 to 10 p.m. (704) 246-2205.

Museum Park Theater

Aug. 7, Raleigh
Citizens of North Carolina are invited to the North Carolina Museum of Art for the grand opening of the Museum Park Theater. (919) 839-6262, ext. 2140.

Deadlines

Deadlines for submitting notices.

October issue August 25
November issue September 25
December issue October 25

We welcome photos and illustrations of coming events. Send notices to Calendar, Carolina Country, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

Cherryville Little Theatre

Aug. 8-10, 15-17, Cherryville
"Pump Boys and Dinettes." A down-home musical about life by the roadside. General admission. 8 p.m. (704) 435-1742 or (704) 435-6011.

Shackleford Beach Trip

Aug. 9, Beaufort
Boat excursion to Shackleford Banks of Cape Lookout National Seashore. Highlights barrier island ecology and beach combing. 2-3 mile walk. 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Reservations-\$15. (919) 728-7317.

Sculpture Celebration

Aug. 9-10, Lenoir
Nationwide competition open to sculptors working in any media. Open to the public. At J.E. Broyhill Park. (704) 754-2486.

Giannini Brass

Aug. 10, Roaring Gap
Repertoire includes music of the Renaissance, Baroque, and Romantic eras, as well as music theater, ragtime, jazz and marches. 8 p.m. at Glade Valley School Auditorium. Tickets \$6 at the door. (910) 363-6008.

"Nightbeat ... A Drum and Bugle Corps Spectacular!"

Aug. 10, Charlotte
Annual drum and bugle corps competition. 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Stadium. Advanced tickets by phone (704) 333-3351.

Boer Goat Extravaganza

Aug. 10, Murphy
Don Smith, legendary Boer goat breeder, will host a barbecue and breeder stock sale. Cherokee County Farmer's Market, Hwy. 64 west. (706) 745-5452.

Shrimp Festival

Aug. 10-11, Sneads Ferry
Arts, crafts, military display, shrimperoo 12 to 7 both days, live music both days (bluegrass inside on Sunday). \$2 per day. Sneads Ferry Community Park. (910) 327-4911.

Davie Theatre Auditions

Aug. 13 & 15, Mocksville
Auditions for "Blithe Spirit." 7 to 9 p.m. at the Recreation Department. Show dates are Oct. 11-13 and 18-20. Prepared audition appreciated but not necessary. (704) 634-3998.

Woodcarving Birds Workshop

Aug. 15, Beaufort
Learn the art of woodcarving and work on a bird carving. 1 to 3 p.m. Families and children ages 8 and up. Reservations-\$5 per bird. (919) 728-7317.

Rummage Sale

Aug. 16-17, Boone
Hosted by the Humane Society of Watauga County. At the National Guard Armory. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (704) 297-4294.

Shakespeare in the Park

Aug. 16-31, Raleigh
"As You Like It." Performances Fri.-Sun. at 8 p.m. Matinee performance on Aug. 25 at 3 p.m. (919) 831-6058.

Camera Clinic

Aug. 17-18, Linville
Annual professional and amateur clinics at Grandfather Mountain. Lectures covering aspects of news photography by experts in the field. No charge. (704) 733-2013.

Outdoor Jazz Band Concert

Aug. 19, Pinehurst
Picnic at 4:30 p.m. and free concert at 6 p.m. at Sandhills Community College. In case of rain, concert will be held in Owens Auditorium. (910) 692-1600.

Fine Art Festival

August 23-25, Banner Elk
Judy Donaghy, (800) 972-2183. At the Millpond.

Mount Jefferson Challenge

Aug. 23, West Jefferson
A 3.5 mile cycling climb to the top of historic Mount Jefferson. \$15. (910) 246-4483.

Quilt Show

Aug. 23-24, Cruso
Featuring the work of crafters and artists from the local mountain area. Quilt raffle on Monday, Aug. 24 at 4 p.m. (704) 648-5633.

Blue Ridge Brutal 100

Aug. 24, West Jefferson
Registration 7 a.m. Ride at 8 a.m. The route includes Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga and Grayson Counties. (910) 246-4483.

Herb Festival

Aug. 24, Durham
Sale of plants, books and many garden related items. Workshops throughout the day. (919) 477-5498.

Gatsby Day at Chinqua-Penn

Aug. 24, Reidsville
Travel back in time to experience the roaring 1920's with ragtime music, classic cars, costumes contest and more. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, \$5 youth. (910) 349-4576.

Joe Shannon

Aug. 24, Roaring Gap
An evening of acoustic Mountain Music in the Celtic tradition. 8 p.m. at Glade Valley School Auditorium. Tickets \$6. (910) 363-6008.

Community CPR

Aug. 26,28, Lexington
Classes conducted by the Lexington/Davidson Chapter of the American Red Cross. 6 to 10 p.m. (704) 246-2205.

Kiev Symphony Orchestra

Aug. 28, West Jefferson
From the Ukraine to Ashe County, the Kiev Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in concert here on its summer tour of the U.S. Sponsored by Ashe County Arts Council at Beaver Creek High School, 7:30 p.m. (910) 246-ARTS.

Fall Classic Horse Show

Aug. 29- Sept. 2, Pinehurst
At Pinehurst Harness Track. (910) 295-4446.

Croatan Trip

Aug. 29, Beaufort
Excursion to the Croatan National Forest. Highlights carnivorous plants, wildflowers, and birds. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reservations-\$5. (919) 728-7317.

Wine Festival and Labor Day Celebration

Aug. 29- Sept. 2, Pinehurst
Champagne receptions, wine seminars, tastings, and cooking demonstrations. Pinehurst Resort and Country Club. (910) 295-8436.

Batik Workshop

Aug. 30, Beaufort
Learn the art of batik and complete a wall hanging. For families and children ages 10 and up. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reservations-\$25, includes materials. (919) 728-7317.

Arts and Crafts at the Gap

Aug. 30- Sept. 1, Highlands
Juried arts and craft show at Sassafras Gap Campground, Hwy. 28 S. Live entertainment and food. Admission \$1 for 3 day pass, children under 12 free. Contact Kathie Finley, (704) 526-3181.

Somerset Place Homecoming

Aug. 31, Washington County
Music, dancing, demonstrations and hands-on activities. 12 to 7 p.m. Free admission. (919) 797-4560.

Littleton/Lake Gaston Festival

Aug. 31, Littleton
Antique car show and parade, crafts, food, games, clowns, flea market, and live entertainment. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain or shine. Betty Harris (919) 586-3335.

Hamfest

Aug. 31- Sept. 1, Shelby

Amateur hand radio operators and flea market. Cleveland County Fairgrounds. (704) 538-7919.

First Aid Classes

Sept. 3 & 5, Lexington

Sponsored by the Lexington/Davidson Chapter of the American Red Cross. 6-10 p.m. (704) 246-2205.

Craft and Bake Day

Sept. 6, Gatesville

Arts, crafts and baked goods. At the Extension building. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (919) 465-8095 or (919) 357-0858.

The Old South Dixieland Band

Sept. 7, Roaring Gap

Playing the happiest music in the world!" is the motto of USAir's traditional jazz band. 2 p.m. in the Glade Valley School Auditorium. Tickets \$6. (910) 363-6008.

Gourd Festival

Sept. 7-8, Cary

Fresh and dry gourds, hard-to-find seeds, and gourd craft will be on sale. Admission \$1. At the Cary Community Center. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. (919) 362-4357.

ONGOING

"Unto These Hills"

through Aug. 24, Cherokee

This outdoor drama tells the story of the Cherokee Nation. Performances nightly at 8:30 p.m. with pre-show entertainment beginning at 7:50 p.m. (704) 497-2111.

Motocross Racing

through Sept. 26, Shelby

Motocross at the Cleveland County fairgrounds. 3 classes. Remaining races are Aug. 3, 24. Sept. 26. Gates open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$6, \$3 children, ages 74 and older free. (704) 487-0651.

North Carolina Artists Exhibition

1996

through Sept. 1, Raleigh

Nowcases the most recent art being created in North Carolina. Elizabeth Holloway, 839-6262, ext. 2140.

Own Home Country

through Sept. 7, Kenansville

Country, gospel and bluegrass performances mixed with comedy routines each Friday and Saturday in August and the first weekend in September. 8 p.m. Tickets: \$10 adults, \$8 seniors and children. (910) 296-2345.

Spotlight On"

through Sept. 8, Wilmington

Wipe Fear Museum features pictures, trophies and other memorabilia related on a local scale America's favorite pastime. \$5 adults, \$3 children 12 and under. (910) 341-4350.

ATTENTION SENIOR HOMEOWNERS

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has a mortgage loan program tailored to the needs of seniors.

This new benefit allows you to receive cash advances from the equity in your home to use for any purpose, with no repayment required, as long as you maintain your home as your primary residence.

There are minimal out-of-pocket expenses required to get into the program, and you will receive consumer education from a HUD-approved non-profit counseling agency.

Call the the local HUD/FHA approved lender listed below for more information.



Wendover

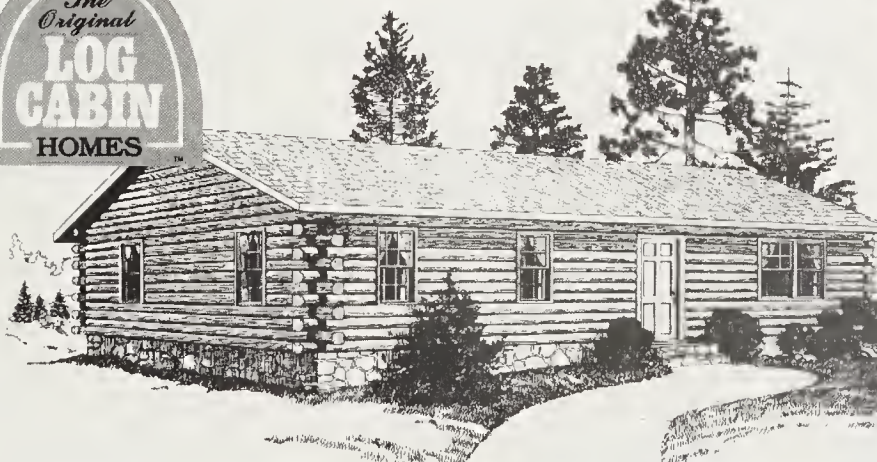
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Go figure.

Match Boxes

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Next to C X H T A C B B A ,

the South has suffered most C X B O B X M E B X S .

– Walter Hines Page

Each of the capital letters above stands for one of the lower case letters below.
Can you decode the capitalized words? X = r

							X		
a	d	e	f	i	o	m	r	t	y

A native of Cary, Page (1855-1918) was Ambassador to Great Britain from 1913 to 1918 under President Woodrow Wilson.

Answer on page 30.

On missing the Lake Junaluska exit off I-40 (or G.T.T.)*

Two roads diverged in the woods and I –
I took the road more traveled by,
And had to travel ten miles more
To get back where I was before.

– Charles Joyner

*Gone To Tennessee



Phone-etics

©1996

A bathing beauty is
2 4 4 7 5 9 6 7 8 4

9 2 3 4 6 4 3 6 7!

If you were to punch in the numbers above on your telephone pad, you would spell out the missing words. Go figure!

Answer on page 30.





Electric Peach Ice Cream

- 6 to 8 large peaches, peeled and sliced (about 7 cups)
- 3 cups milk, divided
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 (12 oz.) can evaporated milk
- 2 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 (12 oz.) can peach nectar

Combine half of peaches and 1/4 cup milk in blender. Process until smooth. Transfer to a medium bowl, and repeat procedure with remaining peaches and 1/4 cup milk. Set aside. Combine remaining 2 1/2 cups milk and next 3 ingredients. Cook over medium heat 8 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat, stir in peach mixture and nectar. Pour into container of 1-qt. electric freezer. Freeze according to manufacturer's instructions. Yield: 1 gallon.

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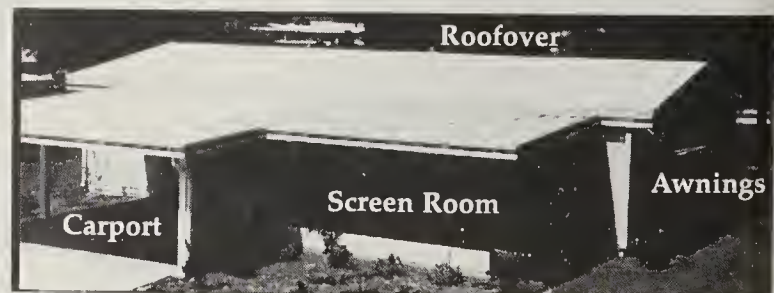
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Making Cents of Your Electric Bill

by James Dulley



You'd be surprised what can come in through a dryer vent.

Venting your clothes dryer

Many homes have problems with a clothes dryer's outdoor vent flapper that sticks open. But the homeowners never realize that the source of drafts, bugs, pollen and molds is a leaky dryer vent. In my own home, a mouse crawled indoors through a leaky flapper.

A leaky dryer vent cover wastes energy dollars year-round. In the summer, a leaky vent may not be as apparent as in the winter. You probably cannot feel a draft, but humidity and warm air leaks indoors. This pushes up your air-conditioning costs and exacerbates allergies to mold, mildew and dust mites.

In the winter, a draft often forces you to set your furnace thermostat a little higher to compensate for the chilly feeling from the draft. This results in a double energy loss.

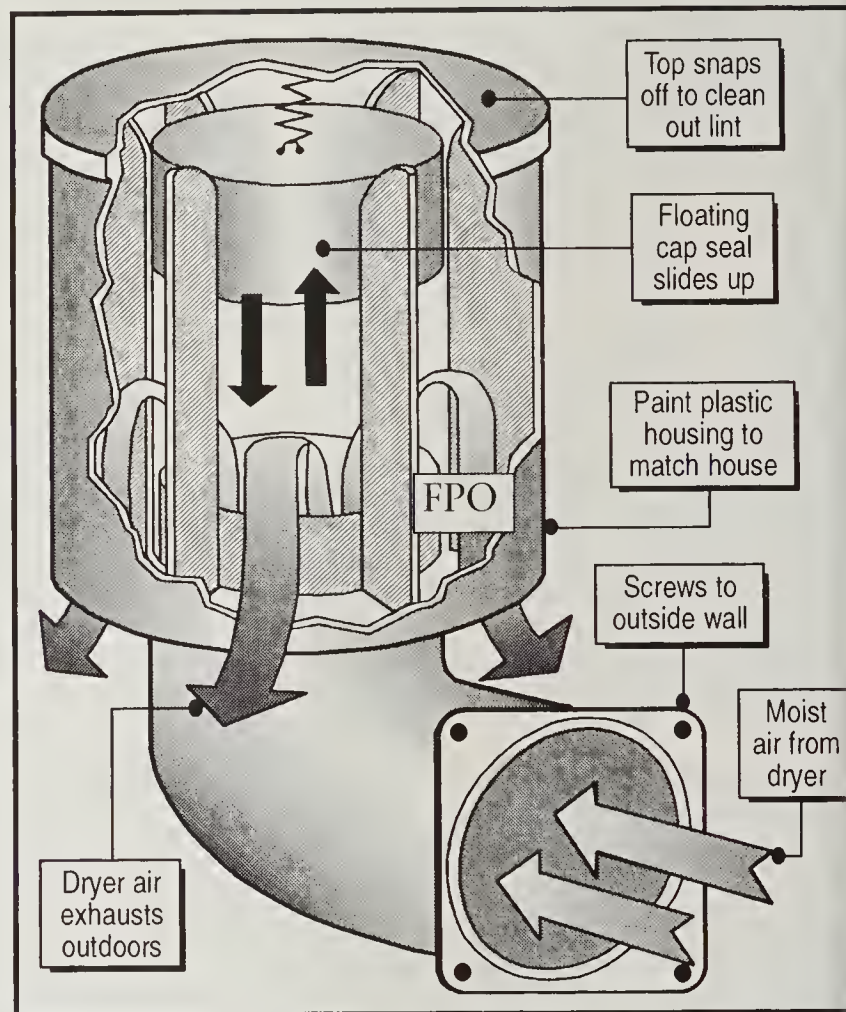
It is sometimes difficult to determine if your vent flapper is always closing properly. Check it while it is still warm immediately after the dryer has stopped. It will often hang open until it cools off and the materials contract a little.

Particularly in the winter, just a fine layer of lint near the hinge area can keep it from closing properly. This layer of lint absorbs moisture. When the dryer shuts off, the damp lint can freeze solid and hold it open. At least once a week, go outdoors and wipe off any lint while the dryer is still running or immediately after it has stopped.

I installed a slightly more expensive vent cover design (about \$13 at hardware stores) that uses a "floating cap" seal. A round cap, inside the vent, slides up and opens when the dryer is on and blows against it.

When the dryer shuts off, the cap slides back down and seals tightly over the end of the vent outlet. It is made of smooth plastic to eliminate lint buildup and the exterior shell is paintable to match your house.

Another simple option is to buy an easy-to-install indoor draft



Tight-sealing dryer vent blocks drafts, allergens and insects

blocker. It mounts in the duct between the dryer and the wall. There are built-in one-way-only louvers that only let the air flow out.

If you ever need to run a humidifier in your home in the winter, try venting your electric dryer indoors occasionally. This really cuts your utility bills. Don't forget to vent it outdoors again in the spring.

One do-it-yourself indoor vent kit ducts the dryer air into a small water reservoir and through a filter to remove lint. Another design is indoor/outdoor switchable. By moving a lever, the warm moist dryer air can be directed indoors through a replaceable filter or outdoors.

If you need a new clothes dryer, consider one of the European-style no-vent electric condensing dryers. Since it does not need to be vented outdoors, it can be located anywhere in your

house. These dryers are more expensive than standard vented dryers, but they are very quiet and last a lifetime.

One new design is a space-saving combination condensing washer/dryer. The unit converts from a washer to a dryer, so only one appliance is needed for the laundry. It requires no venting.

Write for Utility Bills Update No. 961 listing manufacturers of tight-sealing dryer flapper and "floating cap" vents, indoor dry vent kits, no-vent and combination washer/dryers, and laundry efficiency tips. Please include \$2.00 and a business-size SASE.

Send it to James Dulley, Carolina Country, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244.

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Hank's Gardening Guide

by Hank Smith



Watering,
watering,
everywhere.

Summer listlessness, vacations and August doldrums take their toll by tempting us to suspend gardening activities. But, this is a critical period for such shrubs as camellia, boxwood, azalea and rhododendron. A lack of soil moisture now will weaken these plants and make them less resistant to winter, only a few months away.

Plants that bloom in the fall, such as chrysanthemums and asters, should be fertilized with a general purpose fertilizer according to label instructions. Continue to feed lightly every two weeks until color shows in the flowers.

Prepare beds now for fall planting. Spade or till each area, adding complete fertilizer and organic matter.

Vegetables

For fall vegetables, put in cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower plants. Sow seeds of mustard, spinach, leaf lettuce, carrots, radishes and kale. Continue careful harvesting of beans, tomatoes and other vegetables as they reach maturity.

If a week passes with no rain, apply at least an inch of water. Leafy vegetables require plenty of nitrogen for proper growth. Side-dress with two tablespoons of ammonia nitrate per 10 feet of row. Repeat every two to three weeks.

By now insects have increased their tribes and will become even more of a threat in the fall. Begin spraying when you see a problem developing.

Composting

Now starts the fall composting season, when leaves of tulip poplars are beginning to yellow and fall. Select an out-of-the-way site for the compost pile - a spot where tree and shrub roots will not rob the pile of nutrients and moisture.

Move crowded peonies

It's not really a good idea to move peony plants very often, but if your plants have been in one spot for several years and flowering has diminished each season, now is the time to move them to a new location. Sometimes old established clumps tend to become too crowded for good

flower formation. Through the years

a clump can sink too deeply into the ground to make healthy, productive growth. Dig and separate each clump into several divisions. Let each new clump have at least three (preferably five) growth buds or "eyes" on the root crown.

New peony plants may be set out now and on through

October. They like rich soil in a sunny spot. Plant them so the eyes on roots are 1-1/2 inches deep. Too deep a planting causes flowering failure.

Peony

Coleus care

Bloom spikes should be removed from coleus plants to encourage branching, resulting in stockier plants with more colorful foliage. Cuttings are easily rooted in moist sand or Vermiculite, or even a glass of water. Now's the time to root new plants to grow as pot plants in sunny window this winter.



Coleus

The screwdriver test

Watering is the primary task in summer. Check soil moisture several inches down by sticking a screwdriver into the soil. If particles of soil cling to the instrument when it is removed, there's moisture in the soil. If it comes out clean, water thoroughly.

Prepare your amaryllis

To bring your potted amaryllis into bloom for Christmas, you need to start now. Place the plant in a dark, dry location and cease watering. Let it remain that way for at least a month. The foliage will die down as the bulb goes dormant. Then bring the potted bulb back into the bright indirect light. Resume regular weekly watering.

Garden cleanup

When foliage begins to yellow, dig gladiolus corms for winter storage. Don't wait too long, because foliage soon will disappear and corms will be hard to find.

Remove any annuals that have finished flowering for the season, but don't be too hasty. Some plants such as petunias that look straggly now will respond with new growth and flowers if cut back hard and fed.

Fertilize asparagus

Asparagus plants should be fertilized in late August or early September. Roots and crowns need to store food for next year's crop.

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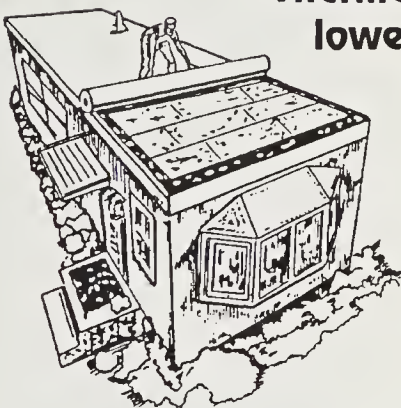
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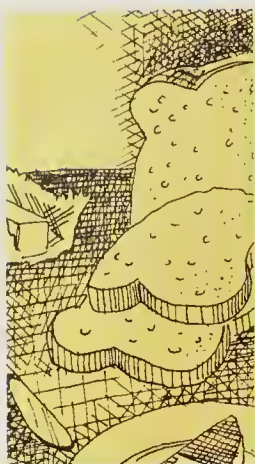
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Submitted by Anna Burchette, Jefferson

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1 12-ounce can fruit cocktail 1 jar cherries

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Want to share recipes?

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From page 22

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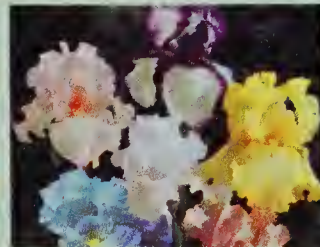
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